



Peelman to Gallagher Memorandum  
Re: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

DETAILS: Attached is a copy of a 9/17/76 Bureau letter to the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, enclosing an LHM (attached) captioned, "House Sub committee on Civil and Constitutional Rights Committee on the Judiciary," dated 9/17/76, wherein it is pointed out that a 5/4/64 letter from Mr. Hoover to Mr. Rankin identified the 69 documents constituting the Oswald file prior to the JFK assassination.

In addition, the 9/17/76 LHM points out that on 5/4/64, Mr. Samuel Stern, staff member of the Warren Commission, made an item-by-item comparison of the file (A. H. Belmont to Mr. Tolson memorandum, 5/5/64) with the itemization of documents set forth in Mr. Hoover's 5/4/64 letter which is identified as Warren Commission Exhibit 834 and is published in Volume XVII, pages 804-813 of the "Hearings Before The President's Commission On The Assassination Of President Kennedy." (Copy attached).

On 11/17/76, Congressman Christopher Dodd and Alan Parker, Chief Counsel of the Committee on Civil and Constitutional Rights of the House Judiciary Committee, reviewed excised copies of 69 documents that comprised the Bureau's file on Lee Harvey Oswald at the time of the assassination of President Kennedy. Congressman Dodd spent approximately three and one half hours on this review but failing to complete same, he expressed a desire to return to FBI Headquarters during the week of 11/22-26/76 to finish his review. Records of the Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA) reflect that Congressman Dodd returned to FBIHQ, 12/17/76, to continue this review, following which, he advised further review was required which he would arrange through OCA. He has not returned as of this date.

Approximately 40 volumes of files were reviewed for the pertinent time frames in the Warren, Oswald and other files in an effort to resolve the allegation that "46" reports "were summarized for the Warren Commission" and "23 were held back." No factual basis for such an allegation was found during that review.

In addition, the 69 items listed in the 5/4/64 letter to the Commission were compared against the actual file documents. It was found that 55 of the 69 were serialized documents and 14 were unrecorded serials in the file. No basis for a 46 to 23 ratio was found as a result of that comparison.